

ONE more attempt is being made to provide some intellectual recreation for Hongkong by means of a Literary, Scientific and Debating Society, and those who feel an interest in the movement are invited to attend a meeting to be held in Foster Cantile's rooms, Bank Buildings, at five o'clock on Friday afternoon. It is to be hoped that the opportunity will be taken full advantage of by the vast number of people in this colony who possess literary or scientific attainments, and who aspire to such mastery of the art of public speaking as would enable them to get up at a company meeting and denounce the directors in correct and graceful English, or rival Lord Rosebery in post-prandial oratory.

Last night, Mrs. A. H. A. Gordon, wife of Major-General Gordon, Captain Superintendent of Police, who leaves for Europe by the P. and O. steamer *Aden*, was presented with a magnificent silver tea-set and silver-salver, as a mark of the esteem in which she was held by the members of the Hongkong Police Force. Since she came to the Colony in 1864, Mrs. Gordon has done a considerable amount of good work amongst the poor, and as a member of the Committee of the Ladies' Benevolent Society the President, Mrs. Fielding Clarke, has found in her an able, earnest and sympathetic worker in every good and charitable work. During Major-General Gordon's brief connection with the police, she has endeavored herself to the wives and families of the married men, taking the deepest and kindest interest in their welfare, and entering into their joys or sorrows with all the charm of womanly sympathy. While there are others in the Colony who will miss her and who extend to her their best wishes for a safe journey to Europe and for the speedy recovery of her husband, the women and children connected with the Police Force will long remember her for her kind deeds, and will be delighted to welcome her back to Hongkong.

Inspector Quincey has returned from his visit to the mainland in quest of Alives, without, the object of his search. The police, who have evidently received instructions from the higher officials, refuse point blank to supply the press with any information; they refuse to say whether Alives has been brought to Kowloon City or if he is in the custody of the Chinese officials in the interior. If he is captured at all, it seems absurd that the public should be deprived of this information when the offender is a public official charged with the misappropriation of public funds; if he has not been captured it does not appear very clear how the ends of justice would be defeated by saying so. Of course, the real state of affairs may be ascertained in a few days, but in the meantime garbled stories will get into circulation which in the long run may do infinitely more harm than good to the efforts the police are putting forth. It is presumed, as our previous statements of the whereabouts of the absconding official were based on information received from authoritative sources, that Alives is still in a small village not far from Kowloon City, and that he is being looked after by the Chinese authorities, with whom negotiations are still being kept up.

THE Peking correspondent of the N. O. Daily News writes: The late winter of the old year, 1892, will long be remembered in Peking. The entertainments and the socialities were worthy of the best traditions of the Legation. Although the new Minister, Mr. O'Connor had hardly settled down and become acquainted with the residents, they were about preparing and arranging for enjoyment. The 31st of December was looked forward to with eager expectation. Mrs. O'Connor had selected and arranged for a representation of *Onwards in pantomime*. The choice of those who were to represent the piece, the working out of the details, and the accompanying scenery, all so tastefully thought out, made the representation an unexpected success. Everyone was charmed. The representation was specially painted by Baron von Stenberg, who labored hard to make the piece worthy of his break and management, and whose talent was only equalled by his modesty. The part of Cinderella was most playfully played by Mrs. Oliver, the two step-sisters were well represented by Madame Fane and Mrs. Beaulieu, the duties of Witch by Madame Wendt, the charming little Fairy by Miss Eliza Drew, the part of Prince was ably borne by Mr. Fane, Baron von der Goltz performed the duties of Ugly with credit to himself and satisfaction to the audience, and others filled subordinate places. *A Rough Diamond*, a comedy in one act, played by the gentlemen of the Legation on the same evening, was as much a success in its way as *Cinderella*. Great praise is due to the gentlemen who played their parts on the stage of the Theatre Royal and acted their parts in a style which reflected universal commendation. Mr. Beaulieu as Sir William Evergreen, Mr. Ker as Margery (Lady Evergreen), Mr. Grant Duff as Lord Minto, Joe as Mr. Willis, were certainly conspicuous successes. The minor parts were also well sustained. After the conclusion of this piece, the company retired to the Minister's quarters, where dancing was indulged in, and where happy congratulations were given to and received by the artist of the evening, after which supper was announced, which was not inferior to anything ever experienced at the hospitable board of Sir John and Lady Walsingham, and all Peking residents must know that it is saying very much, and is the highest mark of praise which could be bestowed. At midnight the party separated, after drinking the health of Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor and the artist, proposed by Col. Denby, and wishing each other a Happy New Year.

TO OCEANOGRAPHY.—Popper's Quinine and Iron Tonic gives New Life, Appetite, Health, Strength, Energy, Cures Nausea, Indigestion, Nerve Debility. Specially useful in hot, depressing climates or malarious districts. Every one should keep a supply, by taking Popper's Quinine, the world-known English Tonic. Bottles everywhere.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE P. M. S. S. CITY OF PEKING.

Mr. Van Buren, Agent of the Pacific Mail Co., writes to-day:—I have received the following by cable from New York:—The City of Peking arrived in San Francisco on February 6th, with her shaft outboard, or propeller, broken. Her sailing from San Francisco, and her departure from Hongkong on March 11th are cancelled. The Company's steamer *China* will leave San Francisco on her regular date and all other sailings will be made as per Schedule.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Legislative Council met this afternoon. H. E. the Governor, Sir William Robinson, presided, and there were also present: Hon. G. T. M. O'Brien, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary; Hon. W. M. Goodman, Attorney General; Hon. J. H. Stewart, Registrar General; Hon. N. G. Mitchell, Hon. J. H. Stewart, Hon. F. A. Cooper, Director of Public Works; Hon. R. Murray Ramsay, Harbour Master; Hon. G. P. Oatley, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. Ho Kai, Hon. E. R. Balliol, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, and Mr. V. H. May, Acting Clerk of Councils.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the reports for 1892 of the Captain Superintendent of Police and the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol.

NOTICE OF QUESTIONS—THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Mr. D. P. Oatley—I give notice that at next meeting of Council I shall ask the following questions:—

(1) What is the total amount, so far as has been ascertained to date, of the loss occasioned to the Treasury through the defalcations of A. F. Alives, late clerk and accountant there?

(2) Over what period of time these defalcations extended so far as is at present known?

(3) Was the defaulter guaranteed in any way, and, if so, how, by whom, and to what amount?

(4) When were the defalcations first discovered, and when were any steps taken for the arrest of the defaulter; is it a fact as stated in the newspapers that Alives was allowed to depart during which he was able to make away with his books and accounts, incriminating him and to escape from the Colony?

Mr. T. H. Whitehead—I beg to give notice that at next meeting of Council I shall ask the following questions:—

Will the Government appoint a commission composed in the main of persons unconnected with the Government service to investigate and report publicly on the management of the Treasury department, and on the circumstances connected with A. F. Alives' defalcations?

THE VOLUNTEER BILL.

The Attorney General moved the second reading of the Ordinance to provide for the establishment of a Volunteer Force and to empower the Governor to raise a special force of Coast Defence Volunteers in the event of an anticipated war. Although there might be slight differences of opinion as to the details of the organization of the Volunteer Force in this Colony, he had never heard it seriously suggested or argued that the organization or raising of such a force is either impossible or undesirable. We might be in a state of security and of peace at the present time, but it was in times of peace and security that proper preparations should be made for the maintenance of the security in the time of trouble and danger, and it might come upon us at a time we did not expect it. Hongkong, it was said, was a small island, and it might be there was a small number of young men in this Colony available for the purposes of a Volunteer Force. It might be, nay, it may be, that the persons of the young men who would be available for such a force was constantly changing in this Colony, changing perhaps more rapidly than in some other places; but that same unity which was inherent in the fact that those who were in the Colony in 1862 and 1863 and 1864 and 1865 and 1866 and 1867 and 1868 and 1869 and 1870 and 1871 and 1872 and 1873 and 1874 and 1875 and 1876 and 1877 and 1878 and 1879 and 1880 and 1881 and 1882 and 1883 and 1884 and 1885 and 1886 and 1887 and 1888 and 1889 and 1890 and 1891 and 1892 and 1893 and 1894 and 1895 and 1896 and 1897 and 1898 and 1899 and 1900 and 1901 and 1902 and 1903 and 1904 and 1905 and 1906 and 1907 and 1908 and 1909 and 1910 and 1911 and 1912 and 1913 and 1914 and 1915 and 1916 and 1917 and 1918 and 1919 and 1920 and 1921 and 1922 and 1923 and 1924 and 1925 and 1926 and 1927 and 1928 and 1929 and 1930 and 1931 and 1932 and 1933 and 1934 and 1935 and 1936 and 1937 and 1938 and 1939 and 1940 and 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TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE, VIA THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
Oceania, TUESDAY, Feb. 9.
Belgia, THURSDAY, March 30.

THE Steamship OCEANIA will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, TO-MORROW, Feb. 9, at 1 p.m., connection being made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

RATES OF PASSAGE.
From Hongkong, First Class.
To San Francisco, Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimaux, New Westminster, Port Town, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O., \$325.00

To Liverpool and London \$325.00
To Paris and Bremen \$325.00
To Havre and Hamburg \$325.00

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

RATES OF PASSAGE TO OVERLAND CITIES, FIRST CLASS.

DESTINATION, 30 day Ticket, Continuation Ticket.

Kansas City, Mo., Omaha, Neb. \$285.00

St. Louis, Mo. \$285.00

St. Paul, Minn., Mpls. \$285.00

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NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP AND RAILROAD COMPANIES.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, 1893.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

Tacoma, Tuesday, February 14.

Victoria, Tuesday, March 14.

Victoria, Tuesday, April 4.

Tacoma, Tuesday, May 2.

THE Steamship TACOMA, Captain J. Hill, sailing at Noon, on TUESDAY, the 14th February, will proceed to VICTORIA, B.C., and TACOMA, via SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, KORE and YOKOHAMA.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Japan, Pacific Coast Ports, and to Canadian and United States Ports.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in quadruplicate, and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of The General Agent Northern Pacific Railroad, Tacoma, Wash.

Parcels must be sent to our Office with address marked in full by 5 p.m., on the day previous to sailing.

For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, January 19, 1893. 118

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TO SINGAPORE AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG:

City of Rio de Janeiro, SATURDAY, Feb. 13.

China, v. Honolulu, TUESDAY, Mar. 21.

Peru, SATURDAY, April 8.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via YOKOHAMA, on SATURDAY, the 13th February, at 1 p.m., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

From Hongkong, First Class.

To San Francisco, Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimaux, New Westminster, Port Town, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O., \$225.00

To Liverpool and London \$325.00

To Paris and Bremen \$325.00

To Havre and Hamburg \$325.00

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

RATES OF PASSAGE TO OVERLAND CITIES, FIRST CLASS.

DESTINATION, 30 day Ticket, Continuation Ticket.

Kansas City, Mo., Omaha, Neb. \$285.00

St. Louis, Mo. \$285.00

St. Paul, Minn., Mpls. \$285.00

Chicago, Ill. \$285.00

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Intimations.

WINDSOR HOTEL, (in Connaught Buildings), QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG.

THE Windsor Hotel heretofore carried on in WINDSOR HOUSE has now been removed to CONNAUGHT HOUSE.

Cuisine under European management. Each Bed-room has its own Bath-room. Hot and Cold water. Passenger Elevator to all Floors.

Charges from \$2 per day upwards. Special Rates for Families or Permanent Boarders. Offices and Rooms to let. Unfurnished and Rooms with or without Board, by day or month. Apply at the Office, No. 37, 3rd Floor, Hongkong, August 23, 1892. 1534

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, CALDECK, MACGREGOR & Co., 13, QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG, August 19, 1891. 1612

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